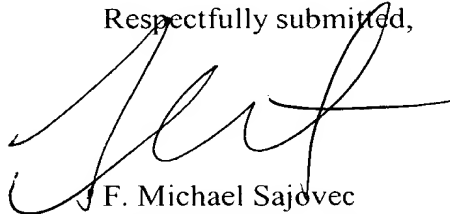


### REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement of June 18, 2003, Applicants hereby elect Invention I, corresponding to Claims 1-36 and 43-78 drawn to a aqueous ammonia based absorption solutions and an alkali metal hydroxide based absorption solution. Applicants have withdrawn Invention II, corresponding to Claims 37-42 and 79-92. This election is made without traverse as Applicants agree with the Examiner that the canceled claims are patentably distinct from the elected claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

### Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 18, 2003.



Clara R. Beard